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feeling, but it lays hold on the deepest springs of thought and resolution. It represents the permanent force of the pulpit at its best.

**The Enchanted Universe.** By Frederick F. Shannon. New York: Revell, 1916. Pp. 204. \$1.00.

Seldom can the abused word "brilliant" be correctly applied to a living preacher; but in the case of Dr. Shannon, pastor of the Reformed Church-on-the-Heights, Brooklyn, New York, no other term is appropriate. He is radiant and glittering and surprising and illuminating. This sentence catches his eye: "The universe, vast and deep and broad and high, is a handful of dust which God enchants." In a moment he is busy with his wand; and we discover the divine movements at the center of the universe as we never dreamed that they were implicit there. These sermons cannot be measured by the ordinary yardstick; they can hardly be criticized; it is better to enjoy them. But let no preacher try to imitate them. They are in a class by themselves and the product of a unique mind. Since Phillips Brooks preached on "The Light of the World" it has seemed as if there were little that could be spoken on that subject that would have original value. But Dr. Shannon preaches on the same text and his sermon stands out with an individual character. He describes much of our modern pessimism as "the mere noise of brains in the throes of thought-friction" (p. 46). Here is a picture of the earth's wealth: "Untold ages ago God filled our world-cellar with coal, and every lump taken out of it is a clot of the sun's blood turned black." He speaks of the spring verdure thus: "Every sprig of grass that has climbed out of its tiny grave and become an emerald string for the south wind to finger a resurrection melody on." Of Christ he says: "Verily, he is the Saviour of the men-who-can't that they may become the men-who-can." Dr. Shannon's diction has wide range and startling novelty; we note "sheaved," "worthful," "back bonelessly," "gawk," "plangent," among many other unusual terms. These sermons are not mere brilliant addresses; this is preaching of the most genuine and effective kind, at least for the congregations that are fortunate enough to hear Dr. Shannon.

**An Ambassador.** By Joseph Fort Newton. New York: Revell, 1916. Pp. 226. \$1.00.

Dr. Newton's call to the City Temple, London, from his pastorate in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, has called general attention to him as a preacher. This volume contains fifteen sermons, eleven of which were preached at the City Temple while he was visiting there, before his final call and acceptance. The remaining

sermons were delivered in America. The dominant note in the sermons preached in England is Christian good-will. The subjects are concerned with the Christian life and doctrine in their general relations, emphasizing the fundamental problems of God and the relations of men to Christ. One feels the influence of the platform in this preaching; the congregation is before us as we read, and we are aware that Dr. Newton is seeking to impress his truth by his skill as speaker as well as by his accuracy as thinker. This is right. The sermon is not designed to be read, but to be heard. But Dr. Newton is often careless in his workmanship. We do not think "makes plea" well chosen (p. 25). The words "setting himself" are obscure (p. 52). "Bernard of Assisi" is more accurately known as Bernard of Quintavalle (p. 88). Undoubtedly the word printed "treaties" should be "treatises" (p. 90). Certainly quotation marks ought not to be set around these words, as they are on p. 191:

"And by the vision splendid,  
We are on our way attended."

Dr. Newton has a message for the age. It is strongly put, but there are too many blemishes in its form.

**Paul and His Epistles.** By D. A. Hayes. New York: Methodist Book Concern, 1915. Pp. 508. \$2.00 net.

Professor Hayes of Garrett Biblical Institute furnishes this volume in a "Biblical Introduction Series" issued by the publishing house of the Methodist Episcopal church. The book contains a sketch of the apostle Paul and a general chapter on the epistles as a whole. These are followed by a detailed discussion of the character and contents of I and II Thessalonians, I and II Corinthians, Galatians, Romans, Philemon, Colossians, Ephesians, Philipians, and the Pastorals in this order. A "Closing Word" appeals for the study of the Pauline epistles and hints at a volume on John, which we suspect to be forthcoming from the studies of the author. The outstanding characteristic of this book is its interesting presentation of the material. The style is fluent and clear. The pages are generally free from technical terms (p. 470 is an exception). The writer is quite in love with his subject and presents it ardently. For the reader without technical training this volume will serve as a delightful and informing introduction to this section of the New Testament literature. But it will not give the most modern point of view. Turn, for example, to the treatment of the Pastoral Epistles. Professor Hayes holds that Paul was "liberated from the Roman imprisonment of which we read in the Book of Acts" and enjoyed another period of missionary activity; the "Pastoral Epistles are genuine"; I Timothy and Titus were written from some place in Asia Minor or Macedonia